

**REMARKS**

This is in full and timely response to the Official Action mailed December 9, 2005. Reconsideration and reexamination are respectfully considered.

Applicants express their appreciation for the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 15, 16 and 23-25.

Claims 1-14, 17-19, 21, 22, 26 and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Logan et al (U.S. Patent No. 4,575,730). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 9-13 and 26 are amended to recite that the liquid discharge portion comprises a liquid chamber, a plurality of energy generating devices and a discharge control circuit. Claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 9-13 and 26 further recite that the liquid chamber stores liquid which is to be discharged; the plurality of energy generating devices generate energy for discharging the liquid stored within the liquid chamber from a nozzle; the plurality of energy generating devices are arrayed within the liquid chamber in the predetermined direction; and, the discharge control circuit controls the discharge direction of a liquid droplet discharged from the nozzle by controlling the difference in energy occurring between at least two of the plurality of energy generating devices within the liquid chamber.

Logan fails to teach these features in amended claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 9-13 and 26 recited immediately above. It is respectfully submitted that the rejection is improper because the applied art fails to teach each element of claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 9-13 and 26 1 as amended and recited above. As a result, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 9-13 and 26 are allowable over the applied art.

Claim 14 includes the allowable subject matter of claim 15 and therefore is now in condition for allowance. Claim 27 includes the allowable subject matter of claim 16 and is now in condition for allowance.

Claims 3-5 depend from claim 1 and include all of the features of claim 1. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the dependent claims are allowable at least for the reason claim 1 is allowable as well as for the features they recite.

Claim 8 depends from claims 2, 6 and 7 and includes all of the features of these claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claim 8 is allowable at least for the reason the independent claims are allowable as well as for the features it recites.

Claims 17-19, 21 and 22 depend from claim 14 and include all of the features of claim 14. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the dependent claims are allowable at least for the reason claim 14 is allowable as well as for the features they recite.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Ishinaga et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,754,201). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 20 depends from claim 14 and includes all of the features of claim 14. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claim 20 is allowable at least for the reason claim 14 is allowable as well as for the features it recites.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the application and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper or if a Petition for Extension of Time is required for timely acceptance of the same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 18-0013 for any such fees and Applicant(s) hereby petition for such extension of time.

Dated:

Respectfully submitted,

By \_\_\_\_\_  
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Attachments: Amendment Transmittal  
Third Information Disclosure Statement  
DC222840.DOC



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Dated: February 9, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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